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## BILL TEXT AND BACKGROUND FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15, 2010

- [Senate Amendment to H.R. 1722 – Telework Improvements Act](#)

[SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1722 – TELEWORK IMPROVEMENTS ACT](#) (*Rep. Sarbanes – Oversight and Government Reform*) (*Subject to a Rule*)

**Bill Text:** [HTML](#), [PDF](#)

[Bill Summary and Status](#)

**Rules Committee Meeting:** (*TBA*)

**Committees:** [House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform](#)

**Committee Staff Contact:** 5-5051

### **BILL SUMMARY & KEY ISSUES:**

#### **SUMMARY OF H.R. 1722 – TELEWORK IMPROVEMENTS ACT**

H.R. 1722, the Telework Enhancement Act of 2010, improves the efficiency of the federal workforce by allowing more federal employees to telework. Under the bill, the head of each agency must establish a policy that authorizes employees to telework and must designate a Telework Managing Officer for the agency. The bill directs the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to issue guidance to agencies on issues related to telework and requires OPM and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to evaluate and report on agency telework programs. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is required under the bill to issue guidelines on information security protections for telework. H.R. 1722 also requires each agency to incorporate telework into the agency's continuity of operations plan.

#### **House Report 111-474:**

[PDF](#)

#### **Full House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Markup:**

[Markup of H.R. 1722](#): Telework Improvements Act, April 14, 2010

- Video: [Watch](#)

#### **Summary of Committee Votes:**

- Rep. Towns, D-N.Y. Substitute amendment — that would require the establishment of Office of Management and Budget guidelines on information security, direct the Government Accountability Office to evaluate agency compliance, and grant the General Services Administration authority over certain travel expenses.

The amendment also would include additional reporting and compliance requirements and would add language on Continuity of Operations Plans.

As amended, it would:

- Direct the Office of Personnel Management to maintain a telework database and would establish various research and reporting requirements.
- Allow agencies to either incorporate telework responsibilities into the work portfolio of an existing employee, or hire a new employee to oversee telework. **Agreed to by Voice Vote.**

- [Rep. Connolly, D-Va. Amendment to the Towns, D-N.Y., substitute amendment](#) — that would direct the Office of Personnel Management to study the use and effects of telework and make recommendations to the federal government. **Agreed to by Voice Vote.**
- [Rep. Chaffetz, R-Utah Amendment to the Towns, D-N.Y., substitute amendment](#) — that would allow agencies to designate an existing employee as the Telework Managing Officer. **Agreed to by Voice Vote.**
- **Vote to Report:** Favorably Reported to the Full House as Amended, **by Voice Vote.**

**CBO Report:**

[Cost Estimate](#): As ordered reported by the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on April 29, 2010

**CRS Report:**

[RL34516](#): Telework for Executive Agency Employees: A Side-by-Side Comparison of Legislation Pending in the 111th Congress

**Administration Position:**

[OPM Director Berry Drives Plan to Increase Telework among Federal Employees](#), U.S. Office of Personnel Management

**Organization Statements:**

[House Subcommittee Advances Telework, TSP, Drug Pricing Bills Supported by NTEU](#), National Treasury Employees Union

[Partnership for Public Service Applauds Reps. John Sarbanes, Frank Wolf, and Gerry Connolly for Introducing the “Telework Improvements Act of 2009”](#), Partnership for Public Service

**Fact Sheets & Talking Points:**

[Section-by-Section Summary of Senate-passed version](#), House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

[H.R. 1722 Talking Points](#), House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

**Press Releases, News Articles & Related Information:**

[Telework Policy Measure Passes in Senate](#), CQ Today

[Bill to Expand Federal Teleworking Passes in House](#), CQ Weekly

[Sarbanes Telework Improvements Act Passes House](#), Office of Congressman John Sarbanes

**Other Resources:**

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